AT A
GENERAL COURT
Held at Boston, *October* 15. 1679.

THIS COURT *being ſenſible of the ſolemn Rebukes of God upon his poor People throughout this Land, from year to year, our Doings againſt the Lord having provoked the eyes of his glory, ſo as that he hath viſited us with the Sword, and ſince that, hath given a Commiſſion to the deſtroying Angel, in reſpect of a ſore and terrible Diſeaſe, which hath been of long continuance, and more contagious and mortal then in former times; and his holy Hand is in that way ſtretched out ſtil over ſome of our Plantations. And very lately, the Lord God hath called to contend by Fire, which hath devoured a great part of that Town, in whoſe welfare all New-England is concerned; and therefore we have all cauſe with bleeding hearts, to lament over the doleful Ruines and Deſolations, which the Lord for our iniquityes hath in one day brought upon us: eſpecially conſidering, that at the ſame time, God is taking away from us the Fruits of the earth, by a greater Blaſting then heretofore we have had experience of. And the Lords Watchmen, with the generality of ſerious Chriſtians, are not without ſad thoughts of heart leſt if we be not reformed by theſe things, God ſhould puniſh us yet ſeven times for our ſins, yea and at laſt remove our Candleſticks out of their places: and there are already ſome awfull Symptoms of a Famine of hearing the Word of the Lord; and other ſpiritual Judgments, calling upon us to gather our ſelves together, in a way of ſolemn Humiliation and Repentance before the Decree bring forth. Being alſo ſenſible that the Churches of Chriſt abroad in the world, are wreſtling with ſore diſtreſſing difficulyes, in this day of trouble, when the Children are come to the birth, but there is not ſtrength to bring forth,*

Do therefore appoint the ſecond *Thurſday* in *December* next, to be obſerved as a day of publick Humiliation throughout this Juriſdiction, earneſtly exhorting all the Inhabitants thereof not only to confeſs but to forſake their Sins, that ſo they may find mercy with God through Jeſus Chriſt, and to cry mightily to Heaven, as for pardon, ſo for Grace to reform, thoſe evils that have by the late Reverend Synod been witneſſed againſt, and declared to be the provoking procuring cauſes of the Lords Controverſy with *New-England*. As alſo to pray that the Lord would remember his people in Europe, more eſpecially in the Land of our Fore-Fathers Sepulchres, maintaining his own Cauſe as the matter may require.

EDWARD RAWSON Secr.